12/13
8 August 2013
CALENDAR OF EVENTS
TERM 3 2013

Monday 12 August
Mackay International Chess
Competition in VPSS Hall

Tuesday 13 August
ICAS Maths Competition
Chess Coaching 9am -12pm

Wednesday 14 August
Year 4 Bike Ed
6:30pm P&C Meeting

Thursday 15 August
Year 4 Bike Ed

Saturday 17 August
Mackay Orchestra Band

Sunday 18 August
Mackay Orchestra Band

Thursday 22 August
Senior Citizens Performance

Friday 23 August
Wakkakiri MECC

Thursday 30 August
Rats of Tobruk Commemoration
Ceremony

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The Victoria Park State School Rugby League Team

On the last day of Term 2, The Victoria Park Rugby League Team were victorious in the invitational Gala Day at Abbott Park, Mackay.


Scoring an unrivalled 32 tries over 4 games, they became the leading point scorers of the competition while displaying sportsmanship and fair play throughout the day.

Gotcha card total for the fortnight:  287
New total for the year so far :  3842
Congratulations—students receive half hour free play
**PRINCIPAL’S NEWS**

**Junior Secondary**

2014 will be the final year that Year 7 will be in the primary school sector. In 2015, students currently in Years 5 and 6 will be in Junior Secondary attending Secondary/High schools. Victoria Park is currently planning the transition of students into Junior Secondary with our cluster of schools including Mackay SHS, Mackay West SS, Dundula SS and Mackay Central SS.

At next week’s P&C meeting (Wednesday 14 August) one of the agenda items for discussion will focus on how we will provide our 2014 Year 6 & 7 students with the experiences that year 7s have engaged in over recent years. This will include Student Leadership roles, Year 7 shirts, the Sydney/Canberra trip, Awards & Graduation ceremonies and class structures for 2014. I would encourage parents who have children in Years 5 and 6 this year to attend and have your input into the school’s planning process for next year.

Mackay SHS will be hosting Junior Secondary Information sessions for parents of students in Years 5 and 6 in the coming months.

**Road Safety**

Children do not instinctively know how to keep safe when travelling to and from school or what the rules of the road are. Children need to be taught the behaviours that will keep them safe on the road - "The Road Rules." We all use the road in differing ways - as a pedestrian, as a bicycle, scooter or skateboard rider and as a passenger in a car or bus. Explicitly teaching children how to be safe as a road user will equip them to be safe when they are using the road to travel to and from school. This should include -

As a pedestrian - where and when to cross the road, using pedestrian crossings correctly, obeying crossing signals, what to do before and during crossing the road, using the footpath as a shared space for pedestrians, bicycle, scooter and skateboard riders.

As a bicycle, scooter or skateboard rider – riding on footpaths as a shared space for pedestrians, bicycle, scooter and skateboard riders.

As a passenger – wearing seatbelts, keeping heads, arms and legs inside the car.

What adults do has a significant impact on developing children’s behaviours. Walking and riding with your child reinforces the correct road behaviours. By demonstrating the correct and safe behaviours you are continuing to be your child’s first and most significant teacher.

**Attendance**

Teachers in Years 2, 7 and 6A will begin trialling electronic roll marking this term. Our plan is to have all classes using the electronic roll marking procedures by the beginning of Term 4.

Class teachers will continue to mark rolls twice a day – once in the morning and once in the afternoon. Students arriving after 8:50 must continue to report to the office to have their attendance recorded and to receive a late slip to take to their class teacher. Parents must collect and sign out students from the office if students are departing the school early.

Parents are reminded that notification is to be provided to the school stating the reason for nonattendance for any student absence. This can include a phone call, email or written note.

**Michael Carr-Gregg talks about ‘Living with Teenagers: how to meet the challenges’**

Dr Michael Carr-Gregg is an expert in adolescent psychology and development. He created Canteen (https://www.canteen.org.au) and is Dolly magazine and Channel 7’s Sunrise preferred expert. His nineteen books include titles, such as, ‘Adolescence: A Guide for Parents’, ‘Surviving Adolescents’, ‘Surviving Step-Families’, ‘When to Really Worry’ and ‘Princess Bitchface’.

In this nineteen minute presentation, Michael addresses issues such as: living with teenagers; do we need a manual for parenting; communication with young people; understanding young people. Also covered are addressing difficult issues like sexuality, risky behaviour, laziness, internet use, school and study. He gives guidelines on when normal teenage behaviour becomes something a parent should worry about as well as practical tips for everyday survival.

Please make some time to hear from this influential and useful expert - [http://youtu.be/5hvT3iKZ2as](http://youtu.be/5hvT3iKZ2as)

**Uniforms**

Parents and carers are reminded that Victoria Park SS in consultation with the P&C Association have in place a School Dress Code. The Dress Code is available from the school’s website [www.victparkss.eq.edu.au](http://www.victparkss.eq.edu.au) and is contained in the School Handbook on the Support & Resources section under documents and forms. The Dress Code explicitly states that hats are a part of the school’s uniform. Victoria Park is a Sun-safe School which requires the school to promote sun safe practices within the school. Wearing a hat while in the sun during class activities, sport and playtimes is one of the easiest ways children can protect themselves from the harmful effects of the sun.

**QSchools smartphone app**

The QSchools app is a convenient way to receive up-to-the-minute information from and about schools. The app is designed to integrate with Websites for Schools websites. When a school publishes content to their website, the smartphone app is automatically updated, meaning the school community remains up-to-date with the latest news, events and newsletters. Emergency announcements, such as, information about natural disasters and school closures, can be published via the app. The app is particularly useful to parents who have students in different schools, as the app
OPENING HOURS of the uniform shop are:
- Tuesday morning from 8:45 to 9:30 am
- Wednesday morning from 8:45 to 9:30 am
- Thursday afternoon from 2:30 to 3:00 pm
- Friday afternoon from 2:30 to 3:00 pm

COMMUNITY NEWS

If you are experiencing separation, The Family Relationship Centre will help you to focus on your children’s needs and provide joint mediation sessions with the other parent or family members to help you agree on the parenting arrangements.

Call 1300 783 544 today

Mackay North State High School
Enrolments for Year 8 in 2014 Application for enrolment and information packs and Scholarship Applications are available from the Mackay North State School Office. Please return completed Enrolment forms as soon as possible.
We are accepting enquiries for all years levels. For further information, contact the school on Phone 4963 1666

Welcome to Mackay Centre
The welcome to Mackay Centre offers information on everything you might need to know about setting up and adjusting to life in the Mackay region. We would like to invite you on a FREE Welcome to Mackay Bus Tour so you can get to know a bit more about Mackay and the local community.

When: Sunday 25 August 2013
Time: 10:30am for an 11am departure
Duration: 2 1/2 hours
Where: The bus departs from the Old Town Hall on Sydney Street at 11am and returns at 1:30pm
Cost: It’s Free!

P&C NEWS

FLEXISCHOOLS-ONLINE ORDERING SYSTEM
This is a system set up by the P&C to make it easier for parents to complete tuckshop and uniform shop ordering at any time. Please go to www.flexischools.com.au and type in Victoria Park SS to see a demonstration of how it works and then register yourself to start ordering from home. If you have any questions please contact Flexischools on 1300 361 769 - they will be more than happy to assist. (There is also an app that is very easy to download and use if you are a smart phone user.)

IAssistSafety App helps children learn protective behaviours. Using a hand, IAssistSafety allows a child to identify 5 adults who they could ask for help if feeling unsafe. The hand assists children to remember their safe people. These 5 adults will help the child to be safe if they are scared, worried, sad or just need help. This App helps to give your child a voice in keeping themselves safe.
Available in Google Play or the Apple Store.
Prep A: Jonte Vloedmans - Fantastic growing patterns.
1A: Billy Vogler - Awesome expression in his reading!
1A: Billy Vogler - Amazing Jack and the Beanstalk retell with fantastic use of speech marks!!
1B: Anthony Higley - For working hard to improve his handwriting and general neatness.
1B: Hunter Powell - For working hard at spelling and achieving pleasing results.
1C: Ruby Smith - You have worked so hard with your Retell writing and always show beautiful manners. Well Done, Ruby!
1C: Ethan Simpson - For amazing us with your spelling every day and staying focussed by being on task.
1D: Wynsei Alimo- Ot - For fantastic work and achievement during maths problems.
1D: Hamish Beale - For persevering with your writing and achieving great results.
2A: Hymn Alimo- Ot - For always presenting beautifully written work.
2A: Jack Woodward - For trying hard to improve his behaviour and work ethics.
2B: Mark DiFrancesco - Great participation in class discussions.
2B: Marian Sanchez - For following our school expectations. Thank you for setting a terrific example for others to follow.
2/3: Hemi Heke - For following our school expectations at all times. Thank you for setting a terrific example for others to follow.
2/3: Cooper Lucas - For demonstrating his commitment to learning by staying focused and completing all set tasks to the best of his ability.
3A: Mark Erron Cuasay - For always taking pride in his work and being a learner in class.
3A: Jaxson Mason - For consistent improvement with spelling.
3A: Seth Single - For being ready to have a go at all classroom activities.
3B: Tyruss Crulinski - For being an excellent role model with his beautiful manners!
3B: Daniel Parker - For being an enthusiastic learner who is trying his best with all classroom activities!
3C: Dustin James - For making HUGE improvements in your attitude and achievement this year.
3C: Kaylee Harberger - Super efforts in reading groups.
4A: Will Kelly - For helping to restore the classroom back to normal.
4A: Jamie-Lee Gutteridge - Consistent effort in reading groups.
4B: Charlotte Hoyle - For always bringing a bright and bubbly personality to class.
4B: Leonardo Innes - Huge improvement in behaviour and completing tasks.
4C: Bailey Howell - Showing improvement in maths.
4C: Natarsha Mc Brown - Working really hard on her fractions Maths assessment.
4/5: Jessica Weatherby - For her positive attitude towards school work and kindness to others.

5A: Lily Bourke - Always displaying commendable work habits.
5A: Riley Inskon - Being a Spelling Superstar.
5B: William Vannather - For his consistently outstanding effort during poetry lessons!
5C: Taine Hona - An outstanding attitude towards all learning tasks.
5C: Brenton Packer - Awesome improvement with spelling skills.
5C: Jasper Rogers-Homoki - Super effort and ideas with maths strategies.
5/6: Kaitlin Bycroft - For great efforts in all areas of her learning.
5/6: Taylah Mason - For consistently working hard in all areas of learning.
5/6: Justin Vaughan - For improvement in his focus and engagement during LOTE lessons.
6A: Lani Hinks - Being a four star learner and always doing her best.
6A: Nicole Copo - For always being a respectful student in all areas of the school.
6/7: Emily Shepherd - For excellent effort in learning new maths concepts.
6/7: Andrew Smyth - For improvement in his focus and engagement during LOTE lessons.
6/7: Nick Watt - For excellent problem solving in Maths.
7A: Bella Green - Always being a friendly and helpful class member.
7A: Gabe West - For an excellent start to the year and actively involved in LOTE lessons.
7A: Shelby Blackmur - Consistent work and effort in all areas.
7B: Laila Ireland - For always being a respectful, polite and considerate to others.
7B: For always giving 100% effort in learning Chinese.
7C: Mitchell Aldous - Being a four star learner.
7C: Cody Gunston - For always being a conscientious, cooperative

This fortnight’s Gotcha Lucky Tuckshop Vouchers go to:

Prep C: Patrick Weise - Beautiful Parade Manners.
1C: Shannah Grant - Great work today Shannah!
2B: Pamela Malcolm - Great sight words.
2C: Tiffany Meng - Awesome story retell.
4A: Zac Rogers - Reading well to Mrs Brunetto.
4/5: Destiny Hansen - Being a learner.
5A: Alyssa Bosma - For always being so helpful around the classroom.
6/7: Lucas Warde - For completion of homework.
7B: Brianna Skinner - Fundraising for School.

Insurance cover for students undertaking physical activities. Physical activity and physical education, particularly contact sports, carry inherent risks of injury. Parents are advised that the Department of Education Training and the Arts does not have Personal Accident Insurance cover for students.

Education Queensland has public liability cover for all approved school activities and provides compensation for students injured at school only when the Department is negligent. If this is not the case, then all costs associated with the injury are the responsibility of the parent or caregiver.

It is a personal decision for parents as to the type and level of private insurance they arrange to cover students for any accidental injury that may occur.

Contact Details
Reminder to parents to keep the school office up to date with changes to address and phone contact numbers. Thank you.